APPENDIX F

PARK AREA REQUIREMENTS

Cabarrus County Park Models

Park Type	Size Range	Characteristics		
	Close-to-Home Parklands			
Mini-Park	.25 to 3 acres	Located with access, safety and convenience to nearby neighborhoods. Located at K-12 school, within neighborhood development, or other site convenient to population served. Typically not provided at County park level unless in conjunction with school. Municipalities provide on limited basis, often w/in neighborhood developments. Park should have natural and/or paved areas; imaginative layout of equipment/landscaping.		
Neighborhood Park	3 to 25 acres	Easily accessible to neighborhood population and geographically centered within safe walking and biking distance, with limited parking. May be within residential community or at K-12 school. Should provide activities for all ages, passive or active. Ball fields located at school sites typically used for programmed youth athletic leagues. Amount of active vs. passive facilities determined by characteristics of site and area served.		
Community Park	25 to 70 acres	Centrally located within park service area, with consideration given to surrounding land uses, safety, and access and land availability. Accessible to multiple neighborhoods, with activities for entire family – active and passive to include fields, courts, trails, playground area and open space. May also include a municipal swimming pool or community center when developed and operated by municipality. Maintenance building may be provided.		

Regional Parklands			
Civic Park	Size varies	Two types of civic parks:	
		1) Located along an unusual land feature such as floodplains, rivers, and easements. Should be of natural or ornamental quality for passive outdoor recreation. Park should be predominantly passive but may include limited active facilities such as trail, playground, gazebo, plazas, benches, formal gardens, waterfront, ponds and other activities. Can include open space for free play or exhibitions and festivals. May include an outdoor amphitheater.	
		2) Located in urban area as passive open space. Can be urban plaza space with landscaped areas and may include playground, gazebo, benches, formal gardens, and fountains.	
District Park	100 to 300 acres	Within reasonable driving distance to community served.	

		Contains large areas for passive recreation use such as nature trails, picnicking, boating, fishing lakes, camping, interpretive center, and large open spaces. May also provide some areas and facilities for active games (softball, basketball, tennis, etc.)
Special Purpose Facilities	N/A	Includes areas for specialized or single purpose recreation activities such as beach parks, tennis centers, historic and archaeological sites, nature preserves, marina, boat landings, fishing facilities, canoe and kayaking trails, golf courses and equestrian facilities.

(Source: Livable Community Blueprint for Cabarrus County, 2002)